GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

HM&FW Department - Containment, Control, and Prevention of COVID-19 - The Epidemic Disease Act, 1897- Disaster Management Act, 2005 – Guidelines for surveillance, containment and caution – Orders - Issued.

HEALTH, MEDICAL & FAMILY WELFARE (B2) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No.795 **Dated:31-12-2020**

Read the following:

1. MHA, GoI Order No.40-3/2020-DM-I(A), Dt. 24.3.2020.
2. G.O.Rt.No. 216, HM&FW (B2) Dept., Dt. 24.03.2020.
3. MHA, GoI Order No. 40-3/2020-DM-I(A), Dt.25.03.2020.
4. MHA, GoI Order No. 40-3/2020-DM-I(A), Dt.27.03.2020.
5. G.O.Rt.No. 221, HM&FW (B2) Dept., Dt. 29.03.2020.
6. MHA, GoI Order No. 40-3/2020-DM-I(A), Dt.02.04.2020.
7. MHA, GoI Order No. 40-3/2020-DM-I(A), Dt.03.04.2020.
8. MHA, GoI Order No. 40-3/2020-DM-I(A), Dt.10.04.2020.
9. MHA, GoI Order No. 40-3/2020-DM-I(A) Dt. 14.04.2020.
10. G.O.Rt.No. 238, HM&FW (B2) Dept., Dt.14.04.2020.
11. G.O.Rt.No. 239, HM&FW (B2) Dept., Dt.16.04.2020.
12. MHA, GoI Order No. 40-3/2020-DM-I(A) Dt. 1.05.2020.
13. G.O.Rt.No.258, HM&FW (B2) Dept., Dt.01.05.2020.
14. G.O.Rt.No. 262, HM&FW (B2) Dept., Dt.03.05.2020.
15. MHA, GoI Order No. 40-3/2020-DM-I(A) Dt. 17.05.2020.
16. G.O.Rt.No.274, HM&FW (B2) Dept., Dt.17.5.2020.
17. MHA, GOI Order No.40-3/2020-DM-I(A) Dt.30.5.2020
18. G.O.Rt.No.280, HM&FW (B2) Dept., Dt.31.5.2020
19. MHA, GOI Order No.40-3/2020-DM-I(A) Dt.29.6.2020
20. G.O.Rt.No.317, HM&FW (B2) Dept., Dt.02.07.2020
21. MHA, GOI Order No.40-3/2020-DM-I(A) Dt.29.07.2020
22. G.O.Rt.No.352, HM&FW (B2) Dept., Dt.05.08.2020
23. MHA, GOI Order No.40-3/2020-DM-I(A) Dt.29.08.2020
24. G.O.Rt.No.390, HM&FW (B2) Dept., Dt.07.09.2020
25. MHA, GOI Order No.40-3/2020-DM-I(A) Dt.30.09.2020
26. G.O.Rt.No.650, HM&FW (B) Dept., Dt: 01.11.2020
27. MHA, GOI Order No.40-3/2020-DM-I(A) Dt.25.11.2020
28. MHA, GOI Order No. 40-3/2020-DM-I(A) Dt.28.12.2020

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ORDER:

In the references 2nd, 5th, 10th, 11th, 13th, 14th, 16th, 18th, 20th, 22nd, 24th and 26th read above, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has directed District Collectors, Joint Collectors, Police Commissioners, SPs, DM&HOs, Municipal Commissioners, Sub-Collectors, RDOs, MROs and MPDOs to take effective measures to prevent the spread of COVID- 19 in the State.

2. In the references 1st, 3rd, 4th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 12th, 15th and 17th, 19th, 21st, 23rd, 25th and 27th read above, the Ministry of Home Affairs has issued various orders and addendums along with Consolidated Guidelines for surveillance, containment and caution to contain the spread of COVID- 19.

3. Therefore, all the District Collectors, Joint Collectors, Commissioners of Police, Superintendents of Police, DM&HOs, Municipal Commissioners, Sub-Collectors, RDOs, MROs and MPDOs are hereby instructed to strictly implement the guidelines annexed to this G.O. and enforce the Guidelines and SOPs issued from time to time for surveillance and implementation of containment measures. This order will be in force upto 31.01.2021 as extended in reference 28th above.

P.T.O.

4. The Orders shall be implemented along with various Orders issued from time to time by the State Government for surveillance, containment and caution to contain the spread of COVID- 19 in the State.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

NILAM SAWHNEY
CHIEF SECREATRY TO GOVERNMENT

To
All the District Collectors in the State.
The DGP, A.P., Mangalgiri.
The Police Commissioner of Vijayawada & Visakhapatnam.
All the Superintendents of Police in the State.
All the Municipal Commissioners in the State.
All the HoDs under the control of HM&FW Department.
All the DM&HOs in the State.

Copy to:

All the Special Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries/Secretaries to Government.
PS to Addl. C.S. to CM.
OSD to Dy. CM (H, FW&ME).
PS to Prl. Secy. to Government, HM&FW Department.
PS to Prl. Secretary (Poll).
PS to Commissioner, I&PR.
SF/SC.

// FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

(Contd..P-3)

Annexure to G.O.Rt. No.795, HM & FW (B2) Dept., dt.31.12.2020

Guidelines for Surveillance, Containment and Caution

[As per Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) Order No. 40-3/2020-DM-I (A) dated 25th November, 20201

The country is at a critical juncture in its fight against COVID- 19. The number of active cases has declined steadily over the last two months, from over 10 lakhs, on September 18, 2020, to less than 4.5 lakhs now. However, over the last few weeks, the number of new cases has been rising in some States and UTs. The confluence of certain factors, viz., the recent festival season and the onset of winter, and the laxity in observance of the COVID-19 guidelines issued by Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) in certain parts of the country pose the risk of the situation becoming aggravated, thus putting a strain on the health infrastructure. In some States and UTs, the spike observed in the number of new cases has already led to re-imposition of restrictions such as Night Curfew, limitations on number of persons in gatherings, restricted timings of markets etc.

In the above context, with a view to consolidating the substantial gains that have been achieved against the spread of COVID-19, and to fully overcome the pandemic, the need of the hour is to maintain caution and strictly follow the prescribed containment strategy, focussed on surveillance, containment and strict observance of the guidelines.

Over the last few months, economic and other activities have been opened up in a phased manner, with the stipulation that the prescribed Standard Operating Procedures (SOPS) be scrupulously followed. The essence behind graded re-opening and progressive resumption of activities is to move ahead. However, there is a concomitant need to exercise due care. Every citizen must adopt COVID-19 appropriate behaviour, so as to ensure that the resumption of activities is successful and gains made in the management of the pandemic are not negated.

The following guidelines are issued to be effective from 1 St December 2020.

COVID appropriate behavior

1. State/ UT Governments shall take all necssary measures to promote COVID-19 appropriate behaviour. Strict enforcement of wearing of face masks, hand hygiene and social distancing must be ensured.
2. Wearing of face masks is an essential preventive measure. In order to enforce this core requirement, States and UTs may consider administrative actions, including imposition of appropriate fines, on persons not wearing face masks in public and work spaces.
3. Observance of social distancing in crowded places, especially in markets, weekly bazaars and public transport, is also critical for containing the spread of the infection. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) will issue a SOP to regulate crowds in market places, which shall be strictly enforced by States and UTs.
4. SOPs for regulating travel in aircrafts, trains and metro rails are already in place, which shall be strictly enforced. States and UTs shall issue necessary guidelines for regulating travel in other modes of public transport, e.g., buses, boats etc., and ensure that these are strictly complied with.

(Contd..P-4)

5. The National Directives for COVID-19 Management, as specified in **Annexure I,** shall be strictly followed throughout the country.

Surveillance and Containment

6. Effective demarcation of Containment Zones, in vulnerable and high incidence areas, is key to breaking the chain of transmission and controlling the spread of the virus. Containment Zones shall be carefully demarcated by the district authorities, at the micro level, taking into consideration the guidelines prescribed by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) in this regard. The list of Containment Zones will be notified on the websites by the respective District Collectors and by the States/ UTs. This list will also be shared with MoHFW.

7. Within the demarcated Containment Zones, containment measures, as prescribed by MoHFW, shall be scrupulously followed, as under:

i. Only essential activities shall be allowed in the Containment Zones.

ii. There shall be strict perimeter control to ensure that there is no movement of people in or out of these zones, except for medical emergencies and for maintaining supply of essential goods and services.

iii. There shall be intensive house-to-house surveillance by surveillance teams formed for the purpose.

iv. Testing shall be carried out as per prescribed protocol.

v. Listing of contacts shall be carried out in respect of all persons found positive, along with their tracking, identification, quarantine and follow up of contacts for 14 days (80% of contacts to be traced in 72 hours).

vi. Quick isolation of COVID-19 patients shall be ensured in treatment facilities/ home (subject to fulfilling the home isolation guidelines).

vii. Clinical interventions, as prescribed, shall be administered.

viii. Surveillance for ILI/ SARI cases shall be carried out in health facilities or outreach mobile units or through fever clinics in buffer zones.

ix. Awareness shall be created in communities on COVID-19 appropriate behaviour.

8. It shall be the responsibility of local district, police and municipal authorities to ensure that the strictly followed. State/ UT Governments shall ensure accountability of the officers concerned in this regard.

Strict adherence to the prescribed SOPs

9. **All** activities have been permitted outside Containment Zones, except for the following, which have been permitted with certain restrictions:

i. International air travel of passengers, as permitted by MHA.

ii. Cinema halls and theatres, with upto 50% capacity.

(Contd..P-5)

iii. Swimming pools, only for training of sports persons.

iv. Exhibition halls, only for business to business (B2B) purposes.

v. Social/ religious/ sports/ entertainment/ educational/ cultural/ religious gatherings, with upto a maximum of 50% of the hall capacity, with a ceiling of 200 persons in closed spaces; and keeping of the size of the ground/ space in view, in open spaces.

However, based on their assessment of the situation, State/ UT Governments may reduce the ceiling to 100 persons or less, in closed spaces.

10. SOPs have been prescribed for various activities. These include: movement by passenger trains; air travel; metro trains; schools; higher educational institutions; hotels and restaurants; shopping malls, multiplexes and entertainment parks; yoga centres and gymnasiums; assemblies and congregations, etc.

11. For ease of reference, the list of activity wise SOPs with their web-links is given at **Annexure II.**

12. The SOPs shall be strictly enforced by the authorities concerned, who shall be responsible for their strict observance.

Local restrictions

13. States and UTs, based on their assessment of the situation, may impose local restrictions, with a view to contain the spread of COVID-19 such as night curfew. However, State/ UT Governments shall not impose any local lockdown (State/ District/ sub-division/City level), outside the containment zones, without prior consultation with the Central Government.

14. States and UTs also need to enforce social distancing in offices. In cities, where the weekly Case Positivity Rate is in more than 10%, States and UTs concerned shall consider implementing staggered office timings and other suitable measures, with a view to reduce the number of employees attending office at the same time, thereby ensuring social distancing.

15. There shall be no restriction on inter-State and intra-State movement of persons and goods including those for cross land-border trade under Treaties with neighbouring countries. No separate permission/ approval/ e-permit will be required for such movements.

Protection of vulnerable persons

16. Persons above 65 years of age, persons with co-morbidities, pregnant women, and children below the age of 10 years are advised to stay at home, except for essential and health purposes.

Use of *Aarogya Setu*

17. Aarogya *Setu* enables early identification of potential risk of infection, and thus acts as a shield for individuals and the community.

18. With a view to ensuring safety in offices and work places, employers on best effort basis should ensure that *Aarogya Setu* is installed by all employees having compatible mobile phones.

(Contd..P-6)

19. Organizations and Business entities with 50 or more employees are encouraged to avail the *Aarogya Setu* OpenAPI Service (https://openapi.aarogyasetu.gov.in). OpenAPI feature will facilitate Organisations and employees to return to work in a COVID 19 risk free environment.

20. District authorities may advise individuals to install the *Aarogya Setu application* on compatible mobile phones and regularly update their health status on the app. This will facilitate timely provision of medical attention to those individuals who are at risk.

Strict enforcement of the guidelines

21. State/ UT Governments shall not dilute these guidelines issued under the Disaster Management Act, 2005, in any manner.

22. For the enforcement of social distancing, State/ UT Governments may, as far as possible, use the provisions of Section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC) of 1973.

23. All the District Magistrates shall strictly enforce the above measures.

Penal provisions

24. Any person violating these measures will be liable to be proceeded against as per the provisions of Section 51 to 60 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, besides legal action under Section188 of the IPC, and other legal provisions as applicable. Extracts of these penal provisions are at **Annexure III.**

(Contd..P-7)

Annexure I

NATIONAL DIRECTIVES FOR COVID19 MANAGEMENT

1. **Face coverings:** Wearing of face cover is compulsory in public places; in workplaces; and during transport.
2. **Social distancing:** Individuals must maintain a minimum distance of 6 feet *(2 gaz ki doori)* in public places.

   Shops will ensure physical distancing among customers.
3. **Spitting in public places** will be punishable with fine, as may be prescribed by the State/ UT local authority in accordance with its laws, rules or regulations.

Additional directives for Work Places

4. **Work from home (WfH):** As far as possible the practice of WfH should be followed.
5. **Staggering of work/ business hours** will be followed in offices, work places, shops, markets and industrial & commercial establishments.
6. **Screening & hygiene:** Provision for thermal scanning, hand wash or sanitizer will be made at all entry points and of hand wash or sanitizer at exit points and common areas.
7. **Frequent sanitization** of entire workplace, common facilities and all points which come into human contact e.g. door handles etc., will be ensured, including between shifts.
8. **Social distancing:** All persons in charge of work places will ensure adequate distance between workers, adequate gaps between shifts, staggering the lunch breaks of staff, etc.

S No	Name of Activity	SOP issue date	Weblink
1	Sign-on and sign-off of Indian Seafarers at Indian Ports and their movement	21.04.20	https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/MHAOrder_21042020_0.pdf
2	Movement of Indian Nationals stranded outside the country and of specified persons to travel abroad	Revised on 22.08.20	https://www.civilaviation.gov.in/sites/default/files/MHA_SOP_dtd_22_08_2020_on_international_travel_under_Vande_Bharat_and_Bubble_flights.pdf
3	Movement of persons by train	19.05.20	https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/MHA%20Order%20Dt.%2019.5.2020%20reg.%20revised%20SoPs%20on%20movement%20of%20stranded%20workers%20by%20trains.pdf
4	Domestic air travel of passengers	25.05.20	https://www.civilaviation.gov.in/sites/default/files/Order_dated_25th_May_2020_on_recommencement_of_domestic_air_services.pdf

(Contd..P-8)

5	Religious places/ places of worship	04.06.20	https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/2SoPstobefollowedinReligiousPlaces.pdf
6	Hotels, restaurants and other hospitality services	04.06.20	https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/3SoPstobefollowedinRestaurants.pdf
7	Shopping Malls	04.06.20	https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/4SoPstobefollowedinShoppingMalls.pdf
8	Offices	04.06.20	https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/1SoPstobefollowedinOffices.pdf#_blank
9	Training Institutions of the Central and State Governments	05.07.20	https://dopt.gov.in/sites/default/files/Scan101.pdf
10	Yoga Institutes and gymnasiums	03.08.20	https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/Guidelinesonyogainstitutesandgymnasiums03082020.pdf
11	Metro Rail	03.09.20	http://mohua.gov.in/cms/covid19metrosop.ph p
12	Skill or entrepreneurship training institutions, higher educational institutions conducting doctoral courses and post graduate studies in technical & professional programs requiring laboratory /experimental work.	08.09.20	https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/FinalSOPonSkillinstitutions&PGinstitutes08092020.pdf
13	Schools	05.10.20	https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/SOP_Guidelines_for_reopening_schools.pdf
14	Cinema hall/theatres/ multiplex	06.10.20	https://mib.gov.in/sites/default/files/SOP%20for%20exhibition%20of%20films.pdf
15	Festivals	06.10.20	https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/StandardOperatingProceduresonpreventivemeasurestocontainspreadofCOVID19duringfestivities.pdf#_blank
16	Colleges/ Higher Education Institution	07.11.20	https://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/1360511_UGC-Guidelines-for-Re-opening-of-Universities-and-Colleges.pdf
17	Entertainment parks and similar places	08.10.20	https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/SOPonpreven tivemeasurestobefollowedinEntertainmentParksandsimilarplacestocontainspreadofCOVID19.pdf
18	Anganwadi Kendra	11.11.20	https://wcd.nic.in/sites/default/files/AWC%20services%20continuation_0.pdf
19	Various congregations	-	Issued by the respective States/ UTs

(Contd..P-9)

Annexure III

Offences and Penalties for Violation of Lockdown Measures

A. Section 51 to 60 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005

51. Punishment for obstruction, etc.—Whoever, without reasonable cause —

(a) obstructs any officer or employee of the Central Government or the State Government, or a person authorised by the National Authority or State Authority or District Authority in the discharge of his functions under this Act; or

(b) refuses to comply with any direction given by or on behalf of the Central Government or the State Government or the National Executive Committee or the State Executive Committee or the District Authority under this Act, shall on conviction be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine, or with both, and if such obstruction or refusal to comply with directions results in loss of lives or imminent danger thereof, shall on conviction be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years.

52. Punishment for false claim.—Whoever knowingly makes a claim which he knows or has reason to believe to be false for obtaining any relief, assistance, repair, reconstruction or other benefits consequent to disaster from any officer of the Central Government, the State Government, the National Authority, the State Authority or the District Authority, shall, on conviction be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years, and also with fine.

53. Punishment for misappropriation of money or materials, etc.—Whoever, being entrusted with any money or materials, or otherwise being, in custody of, or dominion over, any money or goods, meant for providing relief in any threatening disaster situation or disaster, misappropriates or appropriates for his own use or disposes of such money or materials or any part thereof or wilfully compels any other person so to do, shall on conviction be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years, and also with fine.

54. Punishment for false warning.—Whoever makes or circulates a false alarm or warning as to disaster or its severity or magnitude, leading to panic, shall on conviction, be punishable with imprisonment which may extend to one year or with fine.

Offences by Departments of the Government.—(1) Where an offence under this Act has been committed by any Department of the Government, the head of the Department shall be deemed to be guilty of the offence and shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly unless he proves that the offence was committed without his knowledge or that he exercised all due diligence to prevent the commission of such offence.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1), where an offence under this Act has been committed by a Department of the Government and it is proved that the offence has been committed with the consent or connivance of, or is attributable to any neglect on the part of, any officer, other than the head of the Department, such officer shall be deemed to be guilty of that offence and shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly.

(Contd..P-10)

55. Failure of officer in duty or his connivance at the contravention of the provisions of this Act. Any officer, on whom any duty has been imposed by or under this Act and who ceases or refuses to perform or withdraws himself from the duties of his office shall, unless he has obtained the express written permission of his official superior or has other lawful excuse for so doing, be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine.

56. Penalty for contravention of any order regarding requisitioning.—If any person contravenes any order made under section 65, he shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine or with both.

57. Offence by companies.—(1) Where an offence under this Act has been committed by a company or body corporate, every person who at the time the offence was committed, was in charge of, and was responsible to, the company, for the conduct of the business of the company, as well as the company, shall be deemed to be guilty of the contravention and shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly:

Provided that nothing in this sub-section shall render any such person liable to any punishment provided in this Act, if he proves that the offence was committed without his knowledge or that he exercised due diligence to prevent the commission of such offence.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1), where an offence under this Act has been committed by a company, and it is proved that the offence was committed with the consent or connivance of or is attributable to any neglect on the part of any director, manager, secretary or other officer of the company, such director, manager, secretary or other officer shall also, be deemed to be guilty of that offence and shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly.

Explanation. For the purpose of this section—

(a) "company" means anybody corporate and includes a firm or other association of individuals; and

(b) "director", in relation to a firm, means a partner in the firm.

58. Previous sanction for prosecution.—No prosecution for offences punishable under sections 55 and 56 shall be instituted except with the previous sanction of the Central Government or the State Government, as the case may be, or of any officer authorised in this behalf, by general or special order, by such Government.

59. Cognizance of offences.—No court shall take cognizance of an offence under this Act except on a complaint made by—

(a) the National Authority, the State Authority, the Central Government, the State Government, the District Authority or any other authority or officer authorised in this behalf by that Authority or Government, as the case may be; or

(b) any person who has given notice of not less than thirty days in the manner prescribed, of the alleged offence and his intention to make a complaint to the National Authority, the State Authority, the Central Government, the State Government, the District Authority or any other authority or officer authorised as aforesaid.

(Contd..P-11)

B. Section 188 in the Indian Penal Code, 1860

188. Disobedience to order duly promulgated by public servant.— Whoever, knowing that, by an order promulgated by a public servant lawfully empowered to promulgate such order, he is directed to abstain from a certain act, or to take certain order with certain property in his possession or under his management, disobeys such direction, shall, if such disobedience causes or tends to cause obstruction, annoyance or injury, or risk of obstruction, annoyance or injury, to any person lawfully employed, be punished with simple imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month or with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees, or with both; and if such disobedience causes or trends to cause danger to human life, health or safety, or causes or tends to cause a riot or affray, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to six months, or with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees, or with both.

Explanation. It is not necessary that the offender should intend to produce harm, or contemplate his disobedience as likely to produce harm. It is sufficient that he knows of the order which he disobeys, and that his disobedience produces, or is likely to produce, harm.

Illustration

An order is promulgated by a public servant lawfully empowered to promulgate such order, directing that a religious procession shall not pass down a certain street. A knowingly disobeys the order, and thereby causes danger of riot. A has committed the offence defined in this section.

NILAM SAWHNEY
CHIEF SECREATRY TO GOVERNMENT